

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 OMB-01 AID-20 RSR-01 ACDA-19 GAC-01 IO-12

/158 W

----- 076809

R 160945 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3300

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 3600

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AF, PK

SUBJECT: AFGHAN/PAKISTANI RELATIONS -- MORE ON MININFO STATEMENT

REF: (A) KABUL 3506; (B) TEHRAN 3324

1. WHILE INDEPENDENT DAILY CARAVAN EDITORIAL OF MAY 12 IS GENERAL AND QUIET IN TONE, SINCE NEWSPAPER HAS ASSUMED SEMI-OFFICIAL STATUS IN VIEW FACT ITS FORMER PUBLISHER SABAHUDDIN KUSHKAKI BECAME MININFO AND CULTURE LAST DECEMBER, MAJOR POINTS NOTED BELOW:

(A) ALTHOUGH NORMAL FOR COUNTRIES TO TAKE PRECAUTIONS (I. E., MASSING TROOPS) WHEN STATE OF WAR EXISTS NEXT DOOR, IF PAKISTAN FELT DAMAGED BY THIS IT SHOULD HAVE COMPLAINED EARLIER;

(B) NIAZI EVIDENTLY FORGOT THAT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THIS WAR PRESIDENT AND LATER MRS. BHUTTO VISITED KABUL TO THANK RGA FOR ITS " FRIENDLY SENTIMENTS " DURING WAR;

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(C) IF PAKISTAN HAS RIGHT SUPPORT KASHMIRI CAUSE JUST BECAUSE OF ISLAMIC CONNECTION, WHY CAN' T AFGHANISTAN SUPPORT ETHNIC BROTHERS ON FAR SIDE DURAND LINE;
(D) AFGHAN INTEREST IN PUSHTUNS AND BALUCHIS IS NOT INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL PAK MATTERS AS AFGHANISTAN HAS NEVER CLAIMED THESE TERRITORIES;
(E) AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN HAVE MANY " UNSEVERABLE BONDS" AND, IF POLITICAL DIFFERENCES OVER PUSHTUNISTAN CAN BE RESOLVED, BOTH " WILL LIVE IN PEACE AND HAVE FRUITFUL TRADE AND COOPERATION."

2. RGA HAS MAINTAINED ITS PUBLIC POSTURE OF SILENCE ON STATEMENT. DEPMININFO AND CULTURE IMPLIED TO DCM MAY 15 THAT PRIMIN SHAFIQ HAD RECEIVED PRIVATE MESSAGE FROM BHUTTO INDICATING WHILE PUBLIC TOUGH LINE STATEMENT WOULD BE NECESSARY PRIOR TO TEHRAN VISIT, HE HOPED RGA WOULD UNDERSTAND NOT TAKE TOO SERIOUSLY. BHUTTO REMARKS CITED PARA TWO REFTEL B COINCIDE THIS REASONING, AND PROBABLY REPRESENT ATTEMPT BY BHUTTO TO MOLLIFY PUBLICLY ANY ADVERSE AFGHAN REACTION NIAZI STATEMENT.
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